IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: William C. Bullard   Examiner: Rudy, Andrew

Serial No. 09/276,277   Art Unit: 2167

Filed: 03/25/1999

For: **FLOW PROBE CONNECTIVITY DETERMINATION**

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED 10 APRIL 2002

In response to the office action mailed 10 April 2002, Applicant offers the following amendments and remarks. If any fees are required in association with this response, the Director is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account 50-1732, and consider this a petition therefor.

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In another aspect of the invention, the mapping captures an Internet Protocol (IP) packet from a network segment and determines if the captured IP packet includes a message of the first protocol type for providing error reporting. The message has an IP packet that triggered an error event being reported by the message embedded within. The embedded IP packet is of the second protocol type and has a flow associated with it. The mapping correlates the flow associated with the embedded IP packet to a stored parent flow of a given state, thereby associating the error event with the given state of the stored parent flow.--.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 26 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The accounting process 14 enables users such as an Enterprise or an Internet Service Provider to maintain an existing accounting configuration. Information sources can include network traffic flow, RADIUS accounting data, RMON/RMON2 data, SNMP-based data, and other sources of network usage data. The accounting process 14 collects data via the flow data collection layer 18 from multiple disparate sources and produces a new type of composite records.